

What is claimed is:

1. A process for preparing a pigment concentrate, which is non-dusting and free-flowing, which comprises spraying an aqueous formulation, which comprises a pigment presscake, a wetting agent, a dispersant and water, into a fluidized bed, whereby said water is removed.

2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the process is conducted continuously or batchwise.

3. The process according to claim 1, wherein organic or inorganic powder pigments or a mixture of organic and inorganic powder pigments are first added to the pigment presscake.

4. The process according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous pigment formulation further comprises at least one pulverulent polymer carrier.

5. The process according to claim 4, wherein the carrier is polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS), polystyrene (PS), polyamide (PA), polyurethane (PU), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polycarbonate (PC), polyacrylate (PMMA), polyvinyl acetate (PAC), polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) and/or fluoropolymer (PTFE).

6. The process according to claim 1, wherein the wetting agent or dispersant is selected from the group consisting of nonpolar and polar polyethylene waxes, nonpolar polypropylene waxes, paraffin waxes, ethylene-vinyl acetate waxes, fatty acid esters, metal soaps, montan waxes, polyalkyl acrylates, organo-modified siloxanes and a mixture of at least two of the foregoing.

7. The process according to claim 4, wherein the pulverulent polymer carrier is in a solution, emulsion or dispersion with water.

8. A pigment concentrate, which is non-dusting and free-flowing and in the form of beads of a uniform particle size, that is obtainable by the process according to claim 1.

9. The pigment concentrate, according to claim 8, which contains pigments in an amount of from about 30% to about 60% by weight.

10. The pigment concentrate according to claim 8, which contains a wetting agent and/or dispersant in an amount of from about 0.5% to about 50% by weight.

11. A method for coloring plastics or polymers which comprises adding a pigment concentrate according to claim 8, to the plastics or polymers.

12. An article, which comprises a pigment concentrate according to claim 8.

13. The article according to claim 12, wherein said article is a plastic or a polymer.

Color
art